

## Abstract

An alkaline protease having an amino acid sequence, wherein one or more amino acid residues selected from those located at (a) position 15, (b) position 16, (c) position 166, (d) position 167, (e) position 187, (f) position 346, and (g) position 405 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, or at positions corresponding to these positions are the following amino acid residues, respectively:

(a): histidine, (b): threonine or glutamine, (c): glycine, (d): valine, (e): serine, (f): arginine, and (g): aspartic acid; and a gene encoding the alkaline protease.

The alkaline protease exhibits for example excellent detergency against complex soil, and improved protein secretion amount and specific activity, and attains enhanced productivity.